Serial No.: 09/939,209 Docket No.: 00-539-US

REMARKS

Applicants' agent wishes to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given this case. Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview of November 22, 2004, during which the form and language of the present claims were discussed.

Based on discussions with the Examiner during the telephonic interview of November 22, 2004, it is believed that the present amendments to the claims address all outstanding issues and render all pending claims allowable.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims as presently amended.

If the Examiner believes that additional issues need to be resolved before this application can be passed to issue, the undersigned invites the Examiner to contact him at the telephone number provided below.

Dated: November 22, 2004

Tames G. Dilmore Reg. No. 51,618

Frederick H. Colen Reg. No. 28,061

REED SMITH LLP P.O. Box 488 Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0488 (412) 288-3813

Agent and Attorney for Applicants